

REMARKS

In the above-identified office action the Examiner has objected to claims 1-6, 8-10 and 13-20 because of reference numbers in brackets in these claims. Further, claims 10-13 and 15-18 have been objected to because the phrase "according to one of the preceding claims". By the above amendments, Applicant has corrected these matters and as amended believes that the claims are now not objectionable.

Claim 12 has been objected to under 35 U.S.C. § 112 as not being enabled. Applicant has canceled claim 12 and accordingly, believes that this obviates this rejection.

Claims 6, 12, 14 and 15 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 as indefinite. Applicant has corrected the indefiniteness in these claims and as such believes that the claims are now considered allowable. Applicant notes that claims 13 and 14 have been canceled in favor of amended claim 8 and new claim 21.

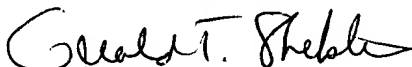
Claims 1-11, 13 and 16-20 have been rejected as being unpatentable over Vitenberg in view of Uppunda et al. and further in view of Abbate et al. However, claims 14 and 15 have been indicated as allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112 and including all the limitations of the base claim. Applicant has adopted the suggestion of the Examiner and rewritten claim 1 so that it now includes the limitations of claims 13 and 14. In addition, claim 8 now includes the limitations of claims 13 and 14 and new claim 21 contains the limitations of claims 8, 13 and 15.

Applicant hereby requests reconsideration and reexamination thereof.

With the above amendments and remarks, this application is considered ready for allowance and Applicant earnestly solicits an early notice of same. Should the Examiner be of the opinion that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of the subject application, he is respectfully requested to call the undersigned at the below-listed number.

Respectfully submitted,

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